REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-16 were allowed and prosecution on the merits was closed pursuant to Ex Parte Quayle. It was noted, however, that non-elected/withdrawn claims 17-46 remained "active" in the application. By the foregoing amendment, non-elected/withdrawn claims 17-46 have been cancelled subject to Applicant's right to prosecute such claims by way of a divisional application.

Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. No fee is seen to be due in connection with the filing of this response. However, in the event that a fee is properly deemed to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0878.

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Respectfully submitted, STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS, LLP

/Robert D. Buyan/

Robert D. Buyan, Reg. No. 32,460

4 Venture, Suite 300 Irvine, CA 92618

Telephone: (949) 450-1750 Facsimile: (949) 450-1764 e mail: rbuyan@patlawyers.com